



OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 8, 1996

TO: District Engineers
District Field Engineers

FROM: Paul F. Miller
Engineer of Construction

SUBJECT: **CONSTRUCTION INSTRUCTIONAL MEMORANDUM 1996-5**
Expansion of the Use of Solar Assist Arrow Boards
for the 1996 Construction Season

A review of the performance of solar assist arrow boards during the construction season to date was conducted by the Construction Zone Advisory Committee (CZAC). Results of day and night time reviews by the construction zone review team, traffic and construction staff from District 7, CZAC members, the FHWA, and other department employees has shown that for this generation of solar assist arrow boards there has been no visibility or legibility problems approaching these arrows and the angularity was more than adequate when approaching from adjacent lanes. In addition, many surrounding states have switched completely to solar assist arrow boards with no apparent problems. This review has resulted in the following change to the Construction Instructional Memorandum 1996-2 which was issued on April 3, 1996, and limited the use of solar assist arrow boards to those projects specifically calling for them in the plans.

Effective immediately the use of solar assist arrow boards is being expanded to allow the resident/project engineers to determine where to use these devices at their discretion with no restrictions. We have attached a special provision for the use of solar assist arrow boards. We are also attaching an evaluation procedure established by the CZAC to provide for the review of a number of new materials, including solar assist arrow boards. Please contact the evaluation team leader from your district when a solar assist arrow board is substituted for a diesel arrow board so that the evaluation teams can review them. These evaluations will enable a determination to be made on the general use of solar assist arrow boards on department projects in the future and will enable a final special provision to be prepared. Any unexpected problems with these devices should be communicated immediately to this office.

Engineer of Construction

Attachments

cc:	R. Welke	J. Culp	L. Hawkins	MRBA
	T. Coleman	C. Arnold	J. Heilman	MCA
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Subject Index: Traffic Control